

Amendment No. 1 to SB0197

Lundberg
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 197*

House Bill No. 809

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-104(a), is amended by deleting the first three sentences of the subsection and substituting instead the following:

Each LEA and public charter school shall adopt a policy that student-teacher ratios must not exceed the maximum class sizes prescribed in this section.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-104(a), is amended by deleting the average class size column in the embedded table.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-104(c), is amended by deleting the language "The average pupil/teach ratios" and substituting instead the language "The student-teacher ratios".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-104, is amended by deleting subsection (e) and substituting instead the following:

(1) An LEA or public charter school shall not establish split-grade classes for the purpose of complying with this section. This subdivision (e)(1) does not prevent an LEA or public charter school from using transitional, ungraded, or unstructured classes.

(2) An LEA or public charter school shall not establish split-grade classes without the approval of the local board of education or the public charter school governing body.

(3) The maximum class size for a split-grade class approved by the local board of education or public charter school governing body is the maximum class size for the lowest grade level represented by the students enrolled in the class.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-104, is amended by deleting subsections (g) and (i), and by deleting subsection (f) and substituting instead the following:

(f) Upon the request of an LEA or public charter school, the commissioner of education may grant a waiver from the maximum class sizes established in this section. The commissioner shall approve or deny an LEA's or public charter school's request for a waiver no later than five (5) business days after the commissioner receives the LEA's or public charter school's request. If the commissioner does not approve or deny an LEA's or public charter school's request for a waiver no later than five (5) business days after the commissioner receives the request, then the LEA's or public charter school's request for a waiver is deemed approved for the respective school year.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-2-128(a), is amended by deleting the language "class size averages" and substituting instead "maximum class sizes".

SECTION 7. This act takes effect July 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it, and applies to the 2023-2024 school year and each school year thereafter.